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March 23, 2000 LB 1222, 1348

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers has a priority motion and that would be to bracket the bill until April 10 of the year 2000.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, to open on your bracket motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, again it falls to me to do the work that this Legislature ought to be doing. This bill should not take our time. I don't blame Senator Vrtiska too much for bringing it and going through with this activity because it's his bill, but we've had the argument on this bill on LB 1348. We advanced LB 1348. This bill does nothing different from LB 1348 or nothing that cannot be done under that bill. We battled on that bill. Senator Wehrbein won me over to it, but I made it clear that that was the bill I would support, and I've told Senator Vrtiska I was going to try to kill this bill. We don't need it and I think we have to get past the point, whether it's me or anybody else, where you're going to say, well, just so somebody's feelings won't be hurt we're going to pass a bill whose contents are already included in another bill. LB 1348 is on its way to final passage. I believe it's going to be passed and I hope there will be enough people to override a veto. But we don't need this bill. And I listened to Senator Vrtiska. He has been more enthusiastic and upbeat when he's presenting claims bills, but he knows that this bill does not have merit when we consider all of the circumstances and the context in which it's being presented to us at this stage in our proceedings. We have a very few days left. The bill adds nothing to anything. If something had to be done, fold this bill into LB 1438 (sic) and save us some time. But since time is in short supply and that seems to be when the Legislature wants to give it to me, when they shouldn't, I will take the time. I didn't like that other bill, but I didn't do things to try to kill it. I argued against it. I offered amendments. But on this one I'm going to try to stop it from being enacted. If we are a deliberative body, if we are